Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 - 2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient ~~undergoing treatment with an immunosuppressant~~ comprising ~~a step of~~ administering to the patient an immunosuppressant, wherein said immunosuppressant comprises a nucleoside, and a step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective dose of a protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide, wherein said protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polydeoxyribonucleotide corresponding to the following formula of random sequence: $P_{1\text{-}5}$, $(dAp)_{12\text{-}24}$, $(dGp)_{10\text{-}20}$, $(dTp)_{13\text{-}26}$, $(dCp)_{10\text{-}20}$, wherein P=phosphoric radical, dAp=deoxyadenylic monomer, dGp=deoxyguanylic monomer, dTp=deoxythymidylic monomer, cDp=deoxycytidylic monomer; or

(b) an oligodeoxyribonucleotide having the following physico-chemical and chemical characteristics: molecular weight: 4000-10,000 Da; hyperchromicity parameter: <10; A+T/C+G: 1.100-1.455; A+G/C+T: 0.800-1.160; specific rotation: +30±48; and achieving protection of one or both of the patient's epithelial or endothelial cells from one or both of apoptosis or activation induced by the administration of the immunosuppressant.

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein the immunosuppressant is chosen from the group comprising 5-fluorouracil, ~~methotrexate,~~ fludarabine, ~~vincristine, vinblastine, paclitaxel, docetaxel, cyclophosphamide, bisloroethylnitrosurea, melphalan, cisplatin, carboplatin, oxaliplatin, JM-216, Ci-973, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, mitomycin-C, etoposide, camptothecin, cyclosporine, tacrolimus, sirolimus,~~ or combinations thereof.

6. (cancelled)

7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3 wherein the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide is defibrotide.

8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3 wherein the step of administering the

protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide occurs as one or more of concurrently with, concomitantly with, simultaneously with, after, or before the administration of the immunosuppressant to the patient.

9. (previously amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide occurs after that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient.

10. (previously amended) The method according to claim 9 wherein the time delay between the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide and that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient is from about one hour to about two weeks.

11. (previously amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide occurs before that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient.

12. (previously amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the time difference between the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide and that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient is from about one hour to about two weeks.

13. (previously amended) The method according to claim 7 wherein the dose of the defibrotide administered is chosen so as to reach a blood level in the patient from about 100 μg/mL to about 0.1 μg/mL.

14. (previously amended) The method according to claim 13 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is chosen so as to reach a blood level in the patient of about 10 μg/mL.

15. (previously amended) The method according claim 7 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is from about 100 mg/kg body weight of the patient to about 0.01 mg/kg body weight.

16. (previously amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is from about 15 mg/kg body weight of the patient to about 1 mg/kg body weight.

17. (previously amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein the activation includes enhanced

expression of ICAM-1.

18. (previously amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein the treatment with an immunosuppressant occurs during stem cell transplantation.

19. (previously amended) The method according to claim 18 wherein the stem cell transplantation is allogeneic stem cell transplantation.

20 - 38. (cancelled)

39. (new) The method according to claim 3, wherein said polydeoxyribomucleotide comprises the formula: $P_{1\text{-}5}$, $(dAp)_{12\text{-}24}$, $(dGp)_{10\text{-}20}$, $(dTp)_{13\text{-}26}$, $(dCp)_{10\text{-}20}$, and has the following chemico-physical properties: electrophoresis = homogenous anodic mobility; extinction coefficient, $E_{1cm}^{1\%}$ at 260 ±1 nm = 220±10; extinction ratio, E_{230}/E_{260} = 0.45±0.04; coefficient of molar extinction (referred to phosphorus); ε(P)=7.750±500; rotary power $[\alpha]_D^{20o}$ = 53°±6; reversible hyperchromicity, indicated as % in native DNA; h=15±5; a purine:pyrimidine ratio of 0.95±0.5.